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Sen. Hardiman helps restore revenue sharing, saving almost \$640,000 for local cities

LANSING – The work of Sen. Bill Hardiman, R-Kentwood, has delivered results to local communities in his district, sparing them from revenue sharing cuts totaling almost \$640,000.

The Senate Appropriations Committee this week restored revenue sharing in an amendment supported by Hardiman. An earlier version of the state budget would have cut revenue sharing to local units of government by 2 percent.

“I’m pleased we’ve restored the revenue sharing,” said Hardiman, a member of the Senate Appropriations Committee. “The state has tough budget challenges, but local governments, who depend on revenue sharing to support police and fire protection, are struggling too.”

The 2 percent cut could have meant a loss of about \$547,000 to the city of Grand Rapids starting Oct. 1. Kentwood would have lost \$81,700 and Lowell \$9,600.

“I was glad to work with Senator George and Senator Garcia to resolve this and keep money that supports our local communities,” Hardiman said of his colleagues, Tom George, R-Texas Township, and Valde Garcia, R-Howell.

The general government budget, which includes revenue sharing, was approved by the Senate Appropriations Committee, and will now be considered by the full Senate.

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